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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

retrieving software update information from component memory of a printing device replaceable component:

validating authority to download a software update identified by the software update information, ~~wherein the validating comprises determining if a verification indicator has been pre-set; and~~

upon validation, facilitating a download of the software update utilizing the software update information from the component memory, wherein the facilitating comprises downloading the software update from the component memory.

2. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the validating further comprises producing a user prompt requesting authorization to download the software update and validating that authority has been granted to download the software update if the user responds in the affirmative to the user prompt.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the validating further comprises determining if a the verification indicator is set in memory of the printing device and validating that authority has been granted to download the software update if the verification indicator is set.

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4. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the validating further comprises determining if a the verification indicator is set in memory of a host computer connected to the printing device and validating that authority has been granted to download the software update if the verification indicator is set.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the validating further comprises accessing a remote site and determining if a the verification indicator is set at the remote site and validating that authority has been granted to download the software update if the verification indicator is set.

6. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the authority to download the software update is provided at the time the printing device is installed.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the facilitating further comprises accessing a pointer in the software update information and accessing a site referenced by the pointer to locate and download the software update.

9. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the facilitating further comprises accessing a telephone number of a remote access site in the software information and utilizing the telephone number to locate and download the software update.

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10. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the facilitating further comprises accessing a telephone number of a vendor site in the software information and facilitating display of the telephone number to a printing device user, wherein the user can call the telephone number to order the software update.

11. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the facilitating further comprises accessing a universal resource locator (URL) in the software information and facilitating display of the URL to a printing device user, wherein the user can manually access the URL to order the software update.

12. (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the facilitating further comprises accessing a printable form using the software information and causing the form to be printed on the printing device, wherein the user can complete the form and send it to a vendor to order the software update.

13. (Currently Amended) A printing device, comprising:
a replaceable component;
component memory integrated into the replaceable component; and
software update information stored in the component memory, the software update information including information to determine if there is an update available for the printing device and for initiating a software update upon pre-authorization from the printing device user, the software update information further including the update available for the printing device.

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14. (Original) The printing device as recited in claim 13, wherein the software update information for initiating a software update further comprises means to display a message to the user that indicates how the user can obtain the software update.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The printing device as recited in claim 13~~ A printing device, comprising:

a replaceable component;
component memory integrated into the replaceable component; and
software update information stored in the component memory, the software update information including information to determine if there is an update available for the printing device and for initiating a software update upon authorization from the printing device user, wherein the software update information for initiating a software update further comprises a pointer that may be provided to an embedded web server in the printing device so that the printing device can access the pointer and download the software update from the site.

17. (Original) The printing device as recited in claim 13, wherein the printing device is a laser printer and the replaceable component is a toner cartridge.

18. (Original) The printing device as recited in claim 13, wherein the printing device is an inkjet printer and the replaceable component is an ink cartridge.

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19. (Currently Amended) A toner cartridge for a laser printer, comprising:

a housing;

a toner reservoir;

a memory tag; and

software update information stored in the memory tag that is retrieved by the laser printer and utilized to update software on the laser printer automatically after obtaining ~~pre-authorized~~ authorization from a laser printer user, wherein the software update information includes the update available for the printing device.

20. (Original) The toner cartridge as recited in claim 19, wherein the software update information is utilized to update software in a host computer connected to the laser printer.

21. (Original) The toner cartridge as recited in claim 19, wherein the memory tag is a radio frequency identification (RFID) memory tag.

22. (Original) The toner cartridge as recited in claim 19, the software update information including a version number that indicates the latest version of software available for the laser printer and a pointer to a location that stores the latest version of the software available for the laser printer.

23. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

installing a replaceable component into a printing device, wherein the replaceable component comprises a memory tag and update information stored in the

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memory tag and comprises a software update stored in the memory tag, wherein the software update is for at least one of software in the printing device and/or software in a host computer connected to the printing device;

determining whether a software update is necessary responsive to the update information stored in the memory tag;

transmitting an update request to request the software update;

responsive to the update request, determining whether a verification indicator pre-authorizing the software update is stored in memory;

if the verification indicator is stored in memory, locating the software update using the update information and downloading the software update; and

if the verification indicator is not stored in memory, providing a user a means to authorize the software update.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the replaceable component comprises a toner cartridge.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein the memory tag comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) memory.

26. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

installing a replaceable component into a printing device, wherein the replaceable component comprises a memory tag and update information stored in the memory tag;

determining whether a software update is necessary responsive to the update

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information stored in the memory tag;

transmitting an update request to request the software update;

responsive to the update request, determining whether a verification indicator
pre-authorizing the software update is stored in memory;

if the verification indicator is stored in memory, locating the software update
using the update information and downloading the software update; and

if the verification indicator is not stored in memory, providing a user a means to
authorize the software update.~~The method as recited in claim 23,~~

wherein locating the software update comprises determining whether the update information stored in the memory tag includes an entirety of the software update, wherein if the update information includes the entirety of the software update, downloading the software update from the memory tag, and if the update information does not include the entirety of the software update, locating the software update, at least in part, responsive to a pointer to the software update.

27. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, wherein providing a user a means to authorize the software update includes displaying a request for authorization on a display and providing a prompt for authorizing the software update.

28. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 23, further comprising storing the verification indicator in memory to pre-authorize subsequent update requests.

29. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein storing the

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verification indicator in memory is performed when the printing device is installed on a computer.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 28, wherein storing the verification indicator in memory includes accessing a remote site through the internet and storing the verification indicator at the remote site.

31. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

retrieving software update information from component memory of a printing device replaceable component:

validating authority to download a software update identified by the software update information; and

upon validation, ~~facilitating a download of the software update utilizing the software update information~~ downloading the software update from the component memory;

wherein the validating further comprises determining if a verification indicator is set in memory of a host computer connected to the printing device and validating that authority has been granted to download the software update if the verification indicator is set.

32. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

retrieving software update information from component memory of a printing device replaceable component:

validating authority to download a software update identified by the software

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update information; and

upon validation, facilitating a download of the software update utilizing the software update information from the component memory;

wherein the validating further comprises determining if a verification indicator is set in memory of the printing device and validating that authority has been granted to download the software update if the verification indicator is set.

33. (Currently Amended) A printing device, comprising:

a replaceable component;

component memory integrated into the replaceable component;

software update information stored in the component memory, the software update information including information to determine if there is a software update available for the printing device and for initiating a software update upon authorization from the printing device user;

software instructions stored in the printing device, wherein the software instructions include instructions to determine whether a verification indicator is set authorizing the software update and, if the verification indicator is set, to download the software update, and if the verification indicator is not set, to provide a user with a means to authorize the software update;

wherein the software instructions further include instructions to determine whether the software update information comprises an entirety of the software update and, if the software update comprises the entirety of the software update, to download the software update from the component memory.

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34. (Previously Presented) The printing device as recited in claim 33, wherein the replaceable component comprises a toner cartridge.

35. (Previously Presented) The printing device as recited in claim 33, wherein the component memory comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) memory.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously Presented) The printing device as recited in claim 33, wherein the software update information includes a pointer for locating the software update, and the software instructions include instructions to determine whether the software update information comprises an entirety of the software update and, if the software update does not comprise the entirety of the software update, to use the pointer to locate the software update for downloading.

38. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the software update comprises a software update for software installed on the printer.

39. (New) The method as recited in claim 38, wherein the software update comprises an update for at least one of firmware, an applet, color table and/or reference table for the printer.

40. (New) The method as recited in claim 39, wherein the firmware comprises at least one of processor-executable instructions or an embedded web server.

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41. (New) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the software update comprises a software update for printer-related software installed on a host computer.

42. (New) The method as recited in claim 41, wherein the software update comprises an update for at least one of a printer driver, a printer status utility and/or a printer administrative utility.